努力
第13話
I'VE GOT SOME PRETTY GOOD NEWS FOR YOU, PRODUCER!
LETS SEE,
友情
A LIST OF UNIT DEBUT AUDITIONS... HOW DOES THAT SOUND TO YOU?
IT'LL ONLY GET HARDER TO SECURE JOBS FROM NOW ON, SO,
I'D AP-PRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD HELP-
-HUH?
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU TWO?
WELL, YOU SEE,
SFX. PIYO?

第2話 「俺にできること」

CHAPTER 2 「THE THINGS I CAN DO」

えっ、
HUH!? !?
YOU MANAGED TO FIND ONE BY YOURSELVES?
IT'S BETTER THAN ANYTHING WE'VE EVER DONE BEFORE!
AMAZING, ISN'T IT?
TEXT: WAIT, SO I DID ALL THAT FOR NOTHING?
UM, I THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER IF WE STARTED OUT SMALL...
COME ON, IT'S THE PERFECT KIND OF JOB FOR US!
BESIDES, WE'RE ALREADY ONE STEP BEHIND EVERYONE ELSE.
YEAH, YUKIHO.
WE CAN'T LET OUR PRODUCER'S HARD WORK GO TO WASTE.
HERE.
THANKS
TEXT: IT'S FINE, THANKS
TEXT: SORRY ABOUT THAT
WHOA. THIS IS REALLY UNBELIEVABLE.
NOT THE SORT OF THING AN INEXPERIENCED IDOL GROUP SHOULD BE DEALING WITH, EITHER.
HOW EXACTLY DID YOU GET YOUR HANDS ON THIS?
IT'S NOT AN ENTRY LEVEL AUDITION.

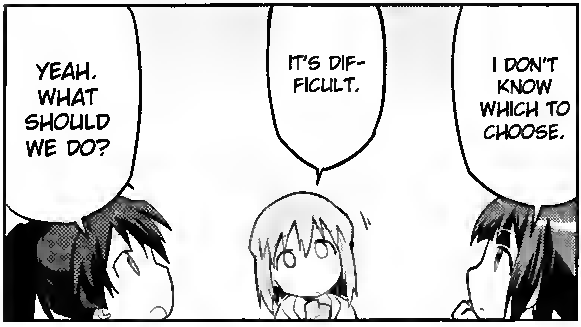
UM, WELL, I SAW AN OPENING FOR THIS...
AND I THOUGHT IT WAS A GOOD IDEA...
THEY'RE GOING TO GO FOR AN AUDITION?
HAHA, OF COURSE.
THEY CAN'T REALLY ACHIEVE MUCH. CAN THEY?
SINCE 765 PRODUCTIONS IS SUCH A SMALL AND WEAK LITTLE AGENCY.
EVERYTHING ELSE,
I LEAVE TO YOU.
JUST TO LET THEM KNOW HOW INSIGNIFICANT THEY ARE,
I'VE PREPARED A GRAND STAGE JUST FOR THEM.
I TRUST YOU'LL DO A FINE JOB OF IT.
PRODUCER?

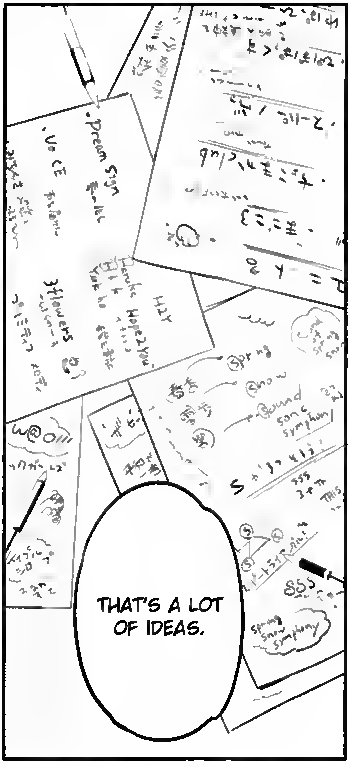
ARE YOU OKAY? YOU DON'T LOOK TOO GOOD.
ER, SORRY FOR SPACING OUT THERE...
PRODUCER-SAN?
AH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
BUT PLEASE DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD.
IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU TRYING YOUR HARDEST,
YOU HAVE TO COME UP WITH A UNIT NAME BEFORE I CAN REGISTER YOU GUYS.
I'LL HELP SETTLE THE PAPERWORK FOR YOUR ENTRY.
OH, I ALMOST FORGOT.

IF YOU'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT THAT...
WHAT IS IT, HIBIKI?
I'VE ALREADY THOUGHT OF ONE.
"HELLO" IS A GOOD NAME, ISN'T IT?
世界共通のアイサツ。
UM
YOU GOT AN IDEA?
I'VE ALSO THOUGHT OF SOMETHING.
HOW DOES "APRICOT TWIST" SOUND?
IT'S A KIND OF FLOWER.
EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN IDEAS, RIGHT?
I THINK,
"LODIPOT" IS PRETTY GOOD, ISN'T IT?
TEXT: READ IT BACKWARDS!

WHICH ONE DO YOU THINK IS THE BEST, PRODUCER-SAN?
ME?

THEY ALL SOUND NICE, TO BE HONEST.
WHY DON'T WE HAVE A GROUP DIS-CUSSION?


I DON'T KNOW WHICH TO CHOOSE.
IT'S DIF-FICULT.
YEAH. WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

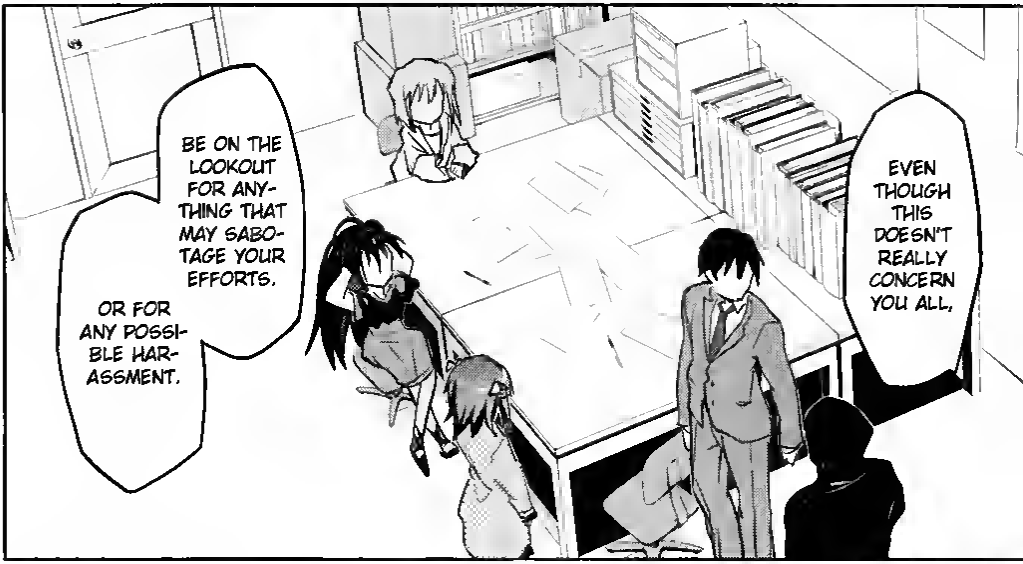

THAT'S A LOT OF IDEAS.

I THINK WE SHOULD LET OUR PRODUCER DECIDE.

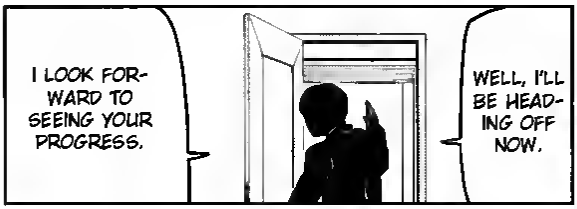
IT'S A PRETTY IMPORTANT NAME, ISN'T IT?
ME TOO!
YEAH, I AGREE.
WHICH ONE OF THESE SOUNDS THE BEST?
OKAY THEN,
SEEING YOU WORK THIS FAST IS A PLEASANT SURPRISE!
PRESI-DENT!
OH, NICE WORK.
MY EYES ARE STILL PRETTY SHARP AT SPOTTING TALENT, AREN'T THEY!
YOU'RE DOING A REALLY GREAT JOB!
UH, THANKS?
IT'S ABOUT THAT JOB YOU'RE TAKING. THERE'S SOME-THING STRANGE ABOUT IT.
THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I WANTED YOU TO KNOW.

THERE'S A HUGE NUMBER OF 961 PRODUCTION'S UNITS PARTICIPATING IN THAT AUDITION.
THUMP
COINCIDENTALLY,
I DON'T THINK I'VE TOLD YOU ABOUT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THEM YET.
SO, UH, WE'RE UP AGAINST 961 PRODUCTIONS.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?
IT'S NOTHING MUCH, REALLY,
IT'S JUST THAT THEIR PRESIDENT AND I GO BACK A LONG WAY...
TO PUT IT SIMPLY, THEY HAVE A REALLY BIG GRUDGE AGAINST US.
THIS CAN'T BE GOOD FOR MY HEART...
WAIT A MINUTE.
SO, WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS,
961'S PRESIDENT HAD A HAND IN ALL OF THIS?

TEXT: WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

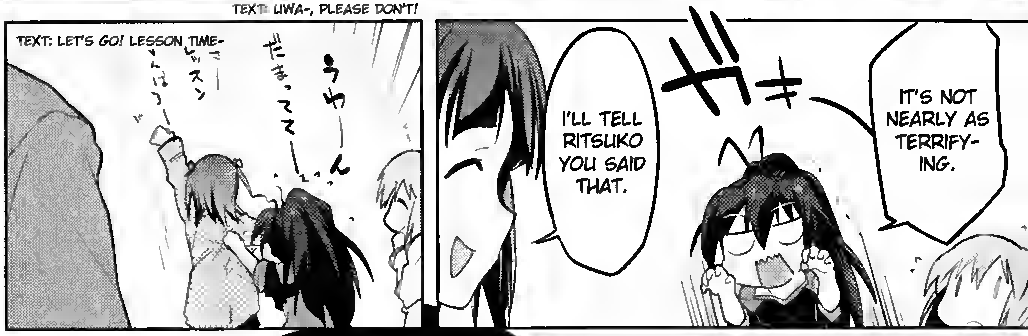

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ANYTHING THAT MAY SABOTAGE YOUR EFFORTS.
OR FOR ANY POSSIBLE HARASSMENT.
EVEN THOUGH THIS DOESN'T REALLY CONCERN YOU ALL,

TEXT: HARASSMENT



THIS ALSO MEANS THAT THE REASON WHY I WAS SENT TO SPY ON THIS AGENCY,
IS THAT PRESIDENT KUROI AND PRESIDENT TAKAGI REALLY DON'T GET ALONG.
Haaa
HOW CHILD-ISH CAN YOU GET?
UM...
I REALLY CAN'T AGREE WITH THIS.
I'M FINE, THANKS.
IT'S NOT THEIR FAULT THAT THEY GOT CAUGHT UP IN THIS MESS.
WHY DON'T WE FOCUS ON THE UPCOMING AUDITION?
TEXT: WILL THEY PUT THUMBTACKS IN OUR SHOES?
TEXT: DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
ARE YOU OKAY, PRODUC-ER-SAN?
TEXT: YOU LOOK LIKE YOU NEED A BREAK

TEXT: UWA-, PLEASE DON'T!



DOESN'T THIS MEAN THAT
IT'S OKAY FOR US TO WIN?
THE ORDERS ONLY SAY TO GET THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN THAT AUDITION
IT DIDN'T STATE ANY OTHER CONDITIONS I HAD TO FOLLOW.

LOOK CLOSELY.
ダッ!
IT SHOULD GO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR CENTER OF GRAVITY. IT'LL BE EASIER TO KEEP YOUR BALANCE.
TELL ME IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING.
EVEN THOUGH I SAID 'WIN',
LESSONS ALONE WON'T MAKE THAT HAPPEN.
I NEED TO THINK OF SOMETHING!
TEXT: I'M NOT DOING ANYTHING

MY FORTE IS...
GATHERING INFORMATION.
THERE'S NOT MUCH ELSE I CAN DO.
INFORMATION ABOUT THE AUDITION?
DATA ABOUT OUR COMPETITION?
NO, I CAN'T DO THAT.
FOR VARIOUS REASONS.
HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT?
言い CAN'T EXPLAIN 不可
自社 INSIDER INFORMATON 報
正々 FAIR PLAY 堂々
Uh
THAT'S IT!
SOMETHING THAT CAN ADD TO THE UNIT'S APPEAL...
I'LL LEAVE THE LESSONS TO YOU THREE. DO YOUR BEST!
SEE YOU!
UM, EXCUSE ME!
I'VE GOT SOME URGENT WORK TO DO BACK AT THE OFFICE

A FEW DAYS LATER-
DO YOU GUYS HAVE ANY IDEA-
WHAT OUR PRO-DUCER IS DOING?
HE'S USUALLY WORKING OUTSIDE OF THE OFFICE.
MAYBE HE'S ALREADY LOOKING FOR OUR NEXT JOB?
EVEN IF THAT'S TRUE,
HE COULD AT LEAST LET US KNOW WHAT HE'S UP TO.
I KNOW HE'S DOING IT FOR OUR SAKE,
BUT, YEAH, IT ALMOST FEELS AS IF WE'RE DRIFTING APART.
ALL RIGHT! I'VE DE-CIDED!

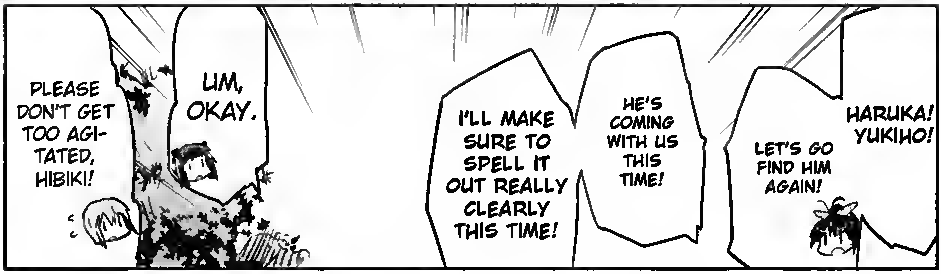
ALSO,
WE'LL GET HIM TO COME FOR OUR LESSONS AGAIN!
TOMORROW!
WE'LL CATCH HIM EARLY AND FIND OUT WHAT HE'S DOING!
EHEHE, I AGREE!
NICE IDEA, HIBIKI!
HUH?
YOU MEAN IT'S ALL MY FAULT?
THEN AGAIN, WEREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO SAID, 'LEAVE THE LESSONS TO US!'?
I'M JUST KIDDING!
OH, COME ON!

HEY, PRO-DUCER!
OH, GOOD MORN-ING.
DAMN, THERE'S NOT ENOUGH TIME...
IS IT THIS FILE?
YOU'RE REALLY EARLY TODAY
DO YOU NEED ANY-THING?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, 'DO YOU NEED ANY-THING'?
SERIOUSLY, WHAT ARE YOU UP TO? WE HAVEN'T SEEN YOU FOR DAYS.
OH, THAT. I'M...
-UGH! SORRY!
I DON'T HAVE ANY MORE TIME!
UM, ABOUT OUR LES-SONS-
YEAH, DO YOUR BEST!
I'M COUNT-ING ON YOU!
AH.

I WISH,
HE'D LISTEN TO WHAT WE HAD TO SAY.
EVEN IF I DID SAY WE COULD HANDLE OUR LESSONS ON OUR OWN,
ムス・
IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT HE SHOULD LEAVE US ALONE LIKE THAT.
WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE WORKING TOGETHER, AREN'T WE?
WE HAVEN'T EVEN
DECIDED ON OUR UNIT'S NAME, YOU KNOW?
COULD HE HAVE... FORGOTTEN ABOUT IT?
EVEN IF THE JOBS HE GETS FOR US ARE BIG,
THEY COME WITH THEIR OWN SET OF WORRIES, DON'T THEY.

EVEN IF WE TRY TO LIVE UP TO PRODUCER-SAN'S HOPES,
IT'S KIND OF DISHEARTENING THAT HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW HOW HARD WE'RE TRYING.
HARUKA-CHAN...
I'M JUST AFRAID WE MAY LOSE OUR ONLY SUPPORTER.
LEAVING THE THREE OF US ALONE... AGAIN.
THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO, ANYWAY.
I GUESS WE SHOULD JUST TRY OUR BEST, AS USUAL...
U...
N...
U

I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY-MORE!
THIS IS REALLY ANNOY-ING!
UGYA-!


PLEASE DON'T GET TOO AGI-TATED, HIBIKI!
UM, OKAY.
I'LL MAKE SURE TO SPELL IT OUT REALLY CLEARLY THIS TIME!
HE'S COMING WITH US THIS TIME!
LET'S GO FIND HIM AGAIN!
HARUKA! YUKIHO!

NEXT MORN-ING-
THAT'S WHAT I HEARD FROM KOTORI-SAN.
WHATEVER LET'S GO.
WILL HE REALLY BE HERE AT THIS TIME?

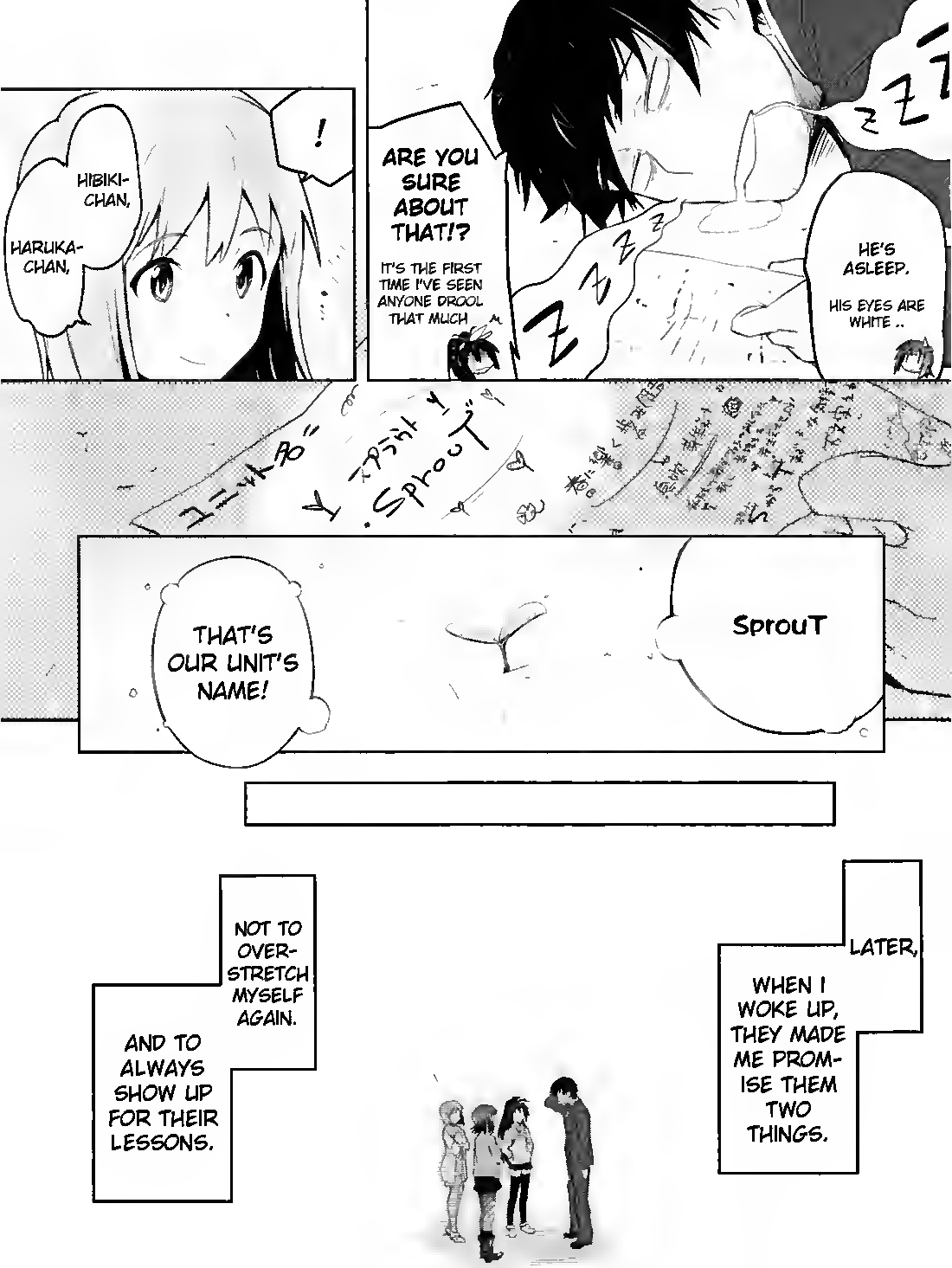
THE ATMO-SPHERE'S REALLY HEAVY..
EH?
WAIT, HARUKA?
I, IT DOESN'T MATTER!
... I THINK
P-
PRODUC-ER-SAN!

TEXT: WHAT DAY IS IT?

HERE ARE ALL THE LATEST TRENDS, AS WELL AS WHAT THE JUDGES ARE LOOKING FOR.
WHOA, YOU'VE EVEN COMPILED THESE?
WE CAN REFER TO THEM FOR OUR LES-SONS.
THAT'S NICE TO HAVE.
YOU'VE BEEN DOING THIS UNTIL NOW,
JUST FOR US?
I'M ONLY GOOD AT FINDING THINGS OUT.
WELL, THAT AND BELIEVING IN YOU THREE.

BUT,
I HAVE TO ADMIT, TRYING MY HARDEST WITH YOU THREE IS PRETTY FUN.
NAH, WE'RE FINE.
NOW THAT WE KNOW THAT YOU'RE STILL WITH US.
DO YOU NEED ANYTHING FROM ME?
IS THAT WHY YOU'RE HERE THIS EARLY?
OH YEAH... SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED EARLIER.
...?
IS THAT SO?
AH, I ALMOST FORGOT.
HERE'S OUR U-
-NIT
PRO-DUCER-SAN!?

TEXT: CRASH!



LATER,

WHEN I WOKE UP, THEY MADE ME PROMISE THEM TWO THINGS.

NOT TO OVER-STRETCH MYSELF AGAIN.

AND TO ALWAYS SHOW UP FOR THEIR LESSONS.

HARUKA: WELL, I'LL JUST COVER HIM WITH THIS.

YUKIHO: IS IT REALLY OKAY IF HE SLEEPS HERE?

HIBIKI: WHOA, LOOK AT THAT 5-O'CLOCK SHADOW.

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